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Please note: These procedures may be revised as the situation develops.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ The best practices to contain and eradicate highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus by “stamping-out” within 24 hours of detection will require rapid depopulation, appraisal, and indemnity procedures.
- ◆ State Animal Health Officials and APHIS officials must approve depopulation prior to the depopulation of any birds. This will require rapid communication between producer, company, State officials, APHIS, and laboratory officials.
- ◆ These appraisal and indemnity procedures apply to both the first detection of HPAI in a State and subsequent HPAI detections in a State.
- ◆ All foreign animal disease (FAD) investigations and depopulation decisions must be approved by State and Federal animal health officials.

## Procedures

1. An inventory of poultry and other information required for appraisal and indemnity (itemized below) should be compiled as soon as a FAD investigation is initiated, or an HPAI [presumptive positive case](#) is identified, or an HPAI [suspect case](#) is identified, or whichever is earliest.
2. If Veterinary Services (VS) District or Incident Management Team (IMT) personnel cannot meet the 24-hour deadline to prepare the indemnity materials, especially for new cases in new States, the [HPAI OPS Group](#) will accept the responsibility for preparing the documentation for appraisal and indemnity from information provided by the owner, grower, licensed veterinarian, or company official.
3. A State or APHIS official will work with the owner, grower, licensed veterinarian, or company official to electronically transmit flock records, information and inventory to the [HPAI OPS Group](#), State Animal Health Officials, VS District personnel, and/or IMT personnel.
4. The VS 1-23 Indemnity Form is created by an APHIS official and based on age, sex, type, and value of birds. The value of the birds is determined by the current indemnity calculator, available from [HPAI OPS Group](#).
5. A State or APHIS official will obtain the owner signature on the VS 1-23 Indemnity Form as soon as the HPAI [presumptive positive case definition](#) is met, or joint State-APHIS decision to depopulate is made. Owner signatures will be signed in ink, but electronically transmitted (fax, digital image, electronic form, etc) to the [HPAI OPS Group](#) prior to depopulation. APHIS officials will collect the hard copy signed form for the record.
6. In some investigations, the HPAI [suspect case definition](#) will be used to initiate depopulation; the same above procedures will apply.
7. A signed flock plan (owner, APHIS, State animal health official) will no longer be required for indemnity payments, but will be required for State quarantine or hold order release, APHIS disposal assistance, and APHIS cleaning and disinfection assistance.

## SPECIAL NOTE FOR FIRST DETECTIONS OF HPAI IN A STATE

- ◆ To maximize speed of APHIS international trade notifications, please send samples to the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) lab and National Veterinary Services

Laboratory (NVSL) at the first indication of increased mortality or clinical signs, and follow FAD investigation procedures.

- ◆ Don't wait to rule out other causes. Duplicate or second set of samples are the standard for FAD investigations.
- ◆ NVSL confirmation is not required for depopulation and indemnity, but is required for APHIS international trade notifications. Timely reporting prevents unnecessary trade disruptions with some trading partners.

## INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR APPRAISAL AND INDEMNITY

Information required for presumptive positive HPAI cases is listed below and must be sent to the preparer of the VS 1-23 Indemnity Form, whether [HPAI OPS Group](#), State Animal Health Officials, VS District personnel, and/or IMT. Some of this information may need to be provided or verified by owner, grower, private veterinarian, VS personnel, or State Animal Health Officials.

- ◆ Type of flock (turkey, chicken, layer, breeder, backyard, etc.)
- ◆ Flock information including the age, sex, and number of each type of bird; number of barns and number of birds in each barn; barn mortality records
- ◆ Date of onset of clinical signs (if present)
- ◆ Date of facility quarantine
- ◆ Reason for test (area surveillance, pre-movement, NPIP [National Poultry Improvement Plan], sick-bird call)
- ◆ County of premises
- ◆ Premises Identification Number (PIN) – location of infected poultry, not company home
- ◆ The GPS coordinates (latitude/longitude) and 911 address of premises
- ◆ Name of facility/complex
- ◆ Name of owner/manager
- ◆ Name of NAHLN lab submitting samples.

## LINKS TO RESOURCES

- ◆ [FAD Investigation Procedures](#)
- ◆ [HPAI Case Definition](#)

## USDA HPAI INCIDENT COORDINATION GROUP (ICG) CONTACT INFORMATION

The below personnel are part of the [USDA OPS Group](#) (which includes other rotating personnel). The [USDA OPS Group](#) is to be notified of all HPAI FAD Priority 1, 2, or A HPAI investigations, HPAI suspect cases, and HPAI presumptive positive cases. No need to email the [HPAI OPS Group](#) personnel individually if the [HPAI OPS Group](#) mail is working. However, phone contact and conference calls are required for any FAD investigations.

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